

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 271620Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2490
INFO SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY COLLECTIVE 38
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USIA WASHDC
CINCPAC
CINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-614
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII
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TAGS: PFOR, PARM, MILI, MBFR, UR, US, XF, XM, XG, SJ, XB, EC
SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS - DEC 24 - 27

1. DOMINANT THEME OF U.S. WEEKEND PRESS COVERAGE
IS GROWING PROBLEM FOR NEW ADMINISTRATION REPRESENTED BY
INCREASING ACTIVITY OF ANTI-DETENTE FORCES IN U.S.

-- SEVERAL ARTICLES IN WEEKEND PRESS REFLECT GROWING
PRESSURE ON FUTURE CARTER ADMINISTRATION OVER MILITARY
SPENDING ISSUES AND WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT. HIGHLIGHT IS
DEC 24 PRAVDA ARTICLE BY WASHINGTON SPECIAL CORRESPON-
DENT G. ASIL'EV CONTRASTING RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE
BY COMMITTEE ON PRESENT DANGER WITH PRESS CONFERENCE
AND REPORT OF U.S. UN ASSOCIATION

"SPIRIT OF REALISM" IN USUNA'S REPORT IS FAVORABLY
MENTIONED, AS IS FACT THAT SEVERAL OF CARTER'S ADVISERS
(VANCE, WARNKE, GARDNER) ALSO PARTICIPATED IN USUNA'S
STUDY. CARTER'S OWN STATEMENTS ON NEED TO TRIM PENTAGON
"FAT" AND ON INTENTION OF STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF
LESSENING U.S. DEPENDENCE ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE ALSO
PRESENTED AS POSITIVE SIGNS. GEORGIY RATIANI IN
INTERNATIONAL WEEK COLUMN IN DEC 26 PRAVDA DESCRIBES
PENTAGON PRESSURE ON CARTER ADMINISTRATION FOR INCREASED
FUNDS, NOTES SENATOR JACKSON'S NEGATIVE INFLUENCE AS
NUMBER TWO MAN ON SENATE ARMED FORCES COMMITTEE, AND
CONCLUDES WITH REPEAT OF BREZHNEV'S REMARKS AT SIMON'S
LUNCH ON NEED TO REACH STRATEGIC ARMS AGREEMENT WITH
U.S. RATIANI WRITES THAT NUMEROUS STATEMENTS BY
CARTER AND HIS FOREIGN POLICY APPOINTEES HAVE RASIED
#HOPE" IN U.S. THAT NEW ADMINISTRATION WILL COOPERATE
WITH SOVIET UNION IN RESOLUTION OF PRESSING INTERNA-
TIONAL QUESTIONS. TASS N.Y. ARTICLE IN DEC 25 PRAVDA
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CITES COORDINATOR OF NATIONAL CENTER FOR REDUCTION OF
MILITARY EXPENDITURES, PAULINE ROSEN, ON "HOPE" OFFERED
BY CARTER'S STATEMENTS ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS.

--RATIANI BEGINS DEC 26 PRAVDA INTERNATIONAL WEEK
COLUMN BY LISTING FOREIGN POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS OF BREZHNEV.
IN PROCESS HE REPEATEDLY REFERS TO U.S. "AGGRESSION" IN
VIETNAM.

-- DEC 24 PRAVDA AND DEC 25 KZ NOTE CALIFANO,
SORENSEN, AND SCHLESINGER APPOINTMENTS.

--
DEC 27 PRAVDA HAS LENGTHY ARTICLE BY S.
TIMOFEYEVA ON INS PROCEEDINGS AGAINST 80 ALLEGED WAR
CRIMINALS NOW LIVING IN U.S. ARTICLE SINGLES OUT CASES
OF KARLIS DETLAVS, VOESLAVS MAYKOVSKIS, BRONYUS
KAMINSKAS AND EDGARS LAYPENIYEKS (ALL PHONETIC); LAST

NAMED IS ACCUSED OF CIA INVOLVEMENT. NO MENTION IS MADE OF SOVIET COOPERATION IN PROVIDING TESTIMONY AGAINST ACCUSED. ARTICLE IS RATHER NEGATIVE IN TONE, POINTING OUT U.S. REFUSAL TO ACT IN PAST AND EMPHASIZING FACT THAT CURRENT PROCEEDINGS ARE ADMINISTRATIVE RATHER THAN CRIMINAL. A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT THEME IS REFLECTED IN WEEKEND MEDIA COVERAGE ON SOVIET COOPERATION IN PROVIDING TESTIMONY IN CASE OF ACCUSED DUTCH WAR CRIMINAL MENTEN, WHERE SOVIET-PROVIDED DOCUMENTS PLAYED ROLE IN SWISS DECISION TO RETURN MENTEN TO NETHERLANDS FOR TRIAL.

-- DEC 26 PRAVDA HAS ARTICLE BY T. KOLESNICHENKO REHASHING ALLEGED CIA-ITT INVOLVEMENT IN SUBVERSION OF ALLENDE REGIME IN CHILE. SEVERAL OTHER ARTICLES REPEAT THEME OF CURRENT INFLUENCE OF U.S. MONOPOLIES IN CHILE.

-- DEC 24 PRAVDA HAS TASS N.Y. ITEM ON CONGRESSMAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DERWINSKI'S PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT ON NEED FOR NEW AGREEMENT WITH PANAMA OVER CANAL.

-- DEC 26 PRAVDA AND KZ HAVE TASS N.Y. ITEM ON ISRAELI LOBBYING CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE AMOUNT OF U.S. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL. RECENT U.S. DECISION TO PROVIDE NEW ROUND OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS TO ISRAEL HAS CAUSED ALARM IN ARAB COUNTRIES, SAYS PRAVDA ARTICLE.

2. OTHER COVERAGE:

-- LONG COMMENTARY ON NOV GENEVA CONGRESS OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL BY YURIY ZHILIN IN PRAVDA DEC 25 IS CONCILIATORY IN TONE, ENCOURAGED BY SOCIAL DEMOCRATS' SUPPORT OF DISARMAMENT, SORROWFUL ABOUT GAP BETWEEN WORDS AND DEEDS (ESPECIALLY BY SD-CONTROLLED GOVERNMENTS), THEIR INABILITY TO GO BEYOND CRITICISMS OF CAPITALISM FROM WITHIN SYSTEM, THEIR INCONSISTENT AND WAVERING ATTITUDE TOWARD DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION WITH COMMUNISTS -- "IN APPROPRIATE AREAS AND FORMS, ON THE BASIS OF MUTUALLY ACCEPTED METHODS," BE IT SAID.

-- WRITING FROM FRANCE DEC 26, PRAVDA SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS HYURIY ZHUKOV AND YURIY KHARLANOV PICK UP PONOMAREV'S UNUSUAL COMPLAINT (BEFORE ASSEMBLY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSION) ABOUT FRENCH PRESS TREATMENT OF SOVIETS, QUOTE BREZHNEV'S SIMILAR COMPLAINT IN FRENCH TV INTERVIEW, AND TRY TO QUOTE PASSAGE

ON CULTIVATING FRIENDSHIP AND ENCOURAGING FAVORABLE
ATMOSPHERE IN GISCARD-BREZHNEV 1975 DECLARATION
AGAINST FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

-- ON POLAND, DEC 24 PRAVDA CARRIES LONG PIECE
BY KATOWICE PARTY BOSS GRUDZIEN WHICH IS BASICALLY
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LESSON IN HOW PZPR APPLIES LENINIST NORMS IN PARTY
WORK--ALL-NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS BEFORE MAJOR ISSUES
ARE DECIDED, OPEN PARTY MEETINGS, DISCUSSION WITH
NON-PARTY SPECIALISTS--WHICH MAY SOUND A LITTLE ODD
TO SOVIET EARS, BUT WHICH ENDS WITH CORRECT NOISES
ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF SOVIET-POLISH TIES, AND PROBABLY
CONSTITUTES GRUDZIEN'S CALLING CARD.

-- ARRESTS IN SPAIN RECEIVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE
IN ALL CENTRAL PRESS OVER WEEKEND. STATEMENT BY CC
CPSU IN PRAVDA DEC 25 AND UNSIGNED COMMENTARY IN DEC 24

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AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USIA WASHDC
CINCPAC

CINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM
DIA WASHDC
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG
CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA
CNO WASHDC//OP-61
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII
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PRAVDA MOST AUTHORITATIVE. ALL ARTICLES USE FORMULA APPROXIMATING THAT OF CC CPSU STATEMENT THAT ARRESTS WERE OF "GROUP OF PCE LEADERS INCLUDING SANTIAGO CARRILLO." PRAVDA DEC 26 CARRIES SHORT REPORT OF LUIS CORVALAN STATEMENT USING SAME FORMULA (NO TEXT). FAVORITE THEME IS THAT ARRESTS ARE STEP AWAY FROM PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIZATION AND DEMONSTRATE GOS COMPROMISE WITH FASCIST FORCES WHICH CONTINUE TO HAVE INFLUENCE. CC CPSU STATEMENT NOTABLY FAILS TO MAKE SECOND POINT. --IN WHAT IS PROBABLY START OF YEAR-END ECONOMIC ROUNDUP OF WESTERN COUNTRIES, WEEKEND PRESS SPOTTED WITH OVER HALF DOZEN ARTICLES ON CONTINUING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN WEST. GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, U.S., ITALY, AND EC NINE COME IN FOR SPECIAL MENTION FOR RISING INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT AND GROWING TRADE PROBLEMS. RATIANI IN PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK REVIEW DEC 26 TIES IT ALL TOGETHER IN CONTEXT OF GROWING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS OF CAPITALISM WITH, QUOTING NEWSWEEK, ACCOMPANYING WAVE OF FEAR AND PESSIMISM. IN CONTRAST, "SOCIALIST WORLD" IS ENJOYING STRING OF ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL SUCCESSES. --PRAVDA DEC 25 FEATURES TASS BONN ARTICLE REPORTING FRG DECISION TO PROCEED WITH NUCLEAR SALE TO NON-NPT STATE, BRAZIL. FRG GETS VERY NEGATIVE TREATMENT FOR IGNORING OBJECTIONS TO DEAL WHICH TRANSFERS ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY ("GAS NOZZLE METHOD") WHICH "TECHNICAL EXPERTS" BELIEVE COULD GIVE BRAZIL CAPABILITY OF PRODUCING A NUCLEAR BOMB. DUTCH-BRITISH-FRG

CONSORTIUM INVOLVED IN DEAL ALSO CRITICIZED. ARTICLE FROM OTTAWA PRINTED NEXT TO BONN REPORT RECORDS AND THEREFORE CONTRASTS CANADIAN DECISION TO REFUSE TO EXPORT REACTORS AND FUEL TO NON-NPT SIGNATORIES. --LONG COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA DEC 26 GIVES END-OF-SESSION WRAPUP OF MBFR. COMMENTATOR I. MEL'NIKOV, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDER "EUROPE SINCE HELSINKI" HEADING, STARTS WITH SOMBER RESUME OF THREE YEARS OF TALKS DURING WHICH, HE SAYS, WEST HAS NOT CEASED TO TRY TO GAIN UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE THUS IGNORING PRINCIPLE OF "UNDIMINISHED SECURITY" NEAR ALL PARTICIPANTS. PRESENTATION OF TWO NEGOTIATING POSITIONS BY MEL'NIKOV DESIGNED TO REINFORCE THIS ARGUMENT, E.G., WEST'S NUCLEAR OFFER WAS TO WITHDRAW OBSOLETE WEAPONS. WEST'S DATA PRESENTATION GOT ONLY PERFUNCTORY MENTION. COMMENTARY ENDS ON SLIGHTLY UP-BEAT NOTE, CLAIMING BALL IN WESTERN COURT AND ALL EUROPE AWAITS ITS EXPRESSION OF REALISM AND GOOD WILL.

--SOVIETS MARK CLOSE OF FOURTH ROUND OF NORWEGIAN-SOVIET BARENTS SEA BOUNDARY TALKS WITH ANNOUNCEMENT DEC 24 IN PRAVDA OF NEW ROCKET TESTS IN DISPUTED AREA FROM DEC 28-30.

--PRAVDA DEC 26 COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN BY VLADIMIR PERESADA REPEATS STANDARD SOVIET POSITION ON ME PEACE, EMPHASIZES RECENT SYRIAN-EGYPTIAN STATEMENT ON PLO PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA CONFERENCE.

--DEC 26 PRAVDA NOTES SIGNING OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT IN TRIPOLI BY REPRESENTATIVES OF RESPECTIVE SOCIETIES OF SOVIET-LIBYAN FRIENDSHIP.

--DEC 25 PRAVDA AND KZ NOTE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT NATIONALIZATION OF ESSO STANDARD OIL FACILITIES IN COUNTRY.

--DEC 25 PRAVDA HAS TASS LUANDA ARTICLE ON INTERVIEW WITH SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA. NUJOMA PRAISES SOVIET UNION FOR HELP TO LIBERATION MOVEMENT, VOWS TO ANSWER IMPERIALIST INTRIGUES WITH INTENSIFIED STRUGGLE FOR COMPLETE VICTORY.

--DEC 25 PRAVDA NOTES DECISION OF TANU AND AFRO-SHIRAZI PARTY IN TANZANIA TO FORM "REVOLUTIONARY PARTY," CHAMA.

--DEC 25 IZVESTIYA NOTES DEC 22 RATIFICATION BY PRESIDUM OF SUPREME SOVIET OF SOVIET-ANGOLAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSULAR CNVENTION SIGNED ON MAY 26.

--DEC 25 PRAVDA AND DEC 23 IZVESTIYA CONTAIN
ARTICLES ON SOUTH AFRICAN PRESSURE ON LESOTHO.

--THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ARTICLES ON NEW JAPANESE
PM FUKUDA. KOSYGIN-GUKUDA EXCHANGE OF CABLES IS
NOTED IN DEC 27 PRAVDA. SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT I.
LATYSHEV WRITES IN DEC 25 PRAVDA ON FUKZJA'S "MINIMAL
MAJORITY." TOKYO SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT YU. BANDURA
WRITES IN DEC 25 IZVESTIYA ON "SKEPTICISM" OF LOCAL
OBSERVERS CONCERNING POLITICAL PERSPECTIVES FOR
LIBERAL-DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

--DEC 25 PRAVDA DN KZ DESCRIBE PUNITIVE
OPERATIONS BY THAI FORCES--SOME SPECIALLY TRAINED BY
AMERICAN ADVISORS--AGAINST ANTI-REGIME GUERRILLAS IN
SOUTHERN THAILAND.

--DEC 25 KZ HAS TASS SINGAPORE ARTICLE ON
PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT MARCOS' ORDER TO STOP MILITARY
OPERATIONS AGAINST MUSLIM INSURGENTS IN SOUTH.

-- M. GEORGIYEV WRITES IN DEC 26 PRAVDA ON WORK
OF FAR EAST INSTITUTE OF ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. IN
PASSING, HE SAYS THAT IN ALL CASES WHEN CHINA HAS
SUPPORTED FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION, IT HAS
ACHIEVED SUCCESS ON PATH OF NATIONAL AND SOCIAL
LIBERATION AND IN SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION.

--O. KITSENKO WRITES IN DEC 26 PRAVDA ON SOVIET
COOPERATION WITH INDIA IN FIELD OF OIL EXPLOITATION
WHICH HAS RESULTED IN INDIA BEING ABLE TO CUT ITS
IMPORTS A PROJECTED 2 MILLION TONS IN NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

--LATIN AMERICAN COVERAGE IS CLEARLY DOMINATED
BY TEXT AND PICTURES IN DEC 23 IZVESTIYA, DEC 24 PRAVDA,
AND DEC 25 KZ ON BREZHNEV MEETING WITH GENERAL SECRETARY
CP CHILE CORVALAN. DEC 25 IZVESTIYA HAS LENGTHY
CHARACTER ASSASSINATION PIECE ON SOVIET DISSIDENT
BUKOVSKIY WRITTEN BY K. PAVLOV. PINOCHET REGIME'S
INTEREST IN BUKOVSKIY IS MENTIONED BUT ACTUAL EXCHANGE
FOR CORVALAN IS NOT (SEPTTEL).

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--DEC 25 PRAVDA NOTES STATEMENT OF CC CP PERU
CALLING ON PROGRESSIVE FORCES TO RESIST EFFORTS TO USE
ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES TO WHITTLE AWAY RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS
IN SOCIAL-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF SOCIETY.

--DEC 23 IZVESTIYA MENTIONS EXCHANGE OF CABLES
BETWEEN KOSYGIN AND JAMAICAN PM MANLEY ON JAMAICAN
NATIONAL DAY.

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